

LODGE ARGUES FOR COLUMBIA TREATY

Senator Opens Fight for Ratification as Desired by the President.

OBJECTIONS REMOVED
Revision of Pact Eliminates Features That Previously Held It Up.

AIDS AMERICAN OIL MEN

Example Also Important for Its Effect on Other Latin American Countries.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., April 12.

Senator Lodge (Mass.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, today formally opened the fight in the Senate for the ratification of the Colombian treaty, recommended by President Harding.

The treaty will be kept before the Senate continuously until April 20, when the final vote will be taken by previous agreement.

Senator Lodge, who signed a minority report of the Foreign Relations Committee in 1917 that called this a "blackmail" treaty, endeavored today in a long and carefully prepared speech to show why he now believes it should be ratified.

President Harding's message transmitting the treaty to the Senate on March 9 was made public today. The President said in part:

"The early and favorable consideration of this treaty would be very helpful at the present time in promoting our friendly relations. There have been many and long delays in dealing with this treaty until we have been made to seem unkind, when in truth we have had no thought but to deal with this sister republic in a most cordial consideration. I believe the revised treaty to be a fair expression of our just and friendly relations with the republic of Colombia, and I would rejoice to have our example in dealing with the republic of Colombia to be made an assurance of that promptness and firmness and justice which should be accorded to all nations which share in the common confidence in our Government and a new regard for our own republic."

Original Objections Overcome.

The burden of Senator Lodge's argument was that the revised treaty overcame objections to the original document and that it is important to obtain the good will of Colombia in order to insure adequate protection for the Panama Canal and because of the efforts of British interests to develop the Colombian oil fields while obstructing the development of these same fields. He said that President Roosevelt, during whose administration the republic of Panama separated from Colombia, recognized the necessity of satisfying Colombia in some way for the loss of the territory through which the United States constructed the Panama Canal.

"It should never have assented under any circumstances to the treaty containing an apology, however worded," said Mr. Lodge. "The treaty is removed from the amended treaty by striking out article 1. Colombia's rights of transit have been modified by amendments, and the threat of hostility against Germany, which has been removed entirely by the passage of time and the course of events."

There remains the objection grounded on the amount of the money payment. I am frank to say that I consider the amount too great, but to bring about a settlement of this question I am ready to waive my objection on that point in order to secure better relations with Colombia and a settlement of the vexed question of recognition and of boundaries. An amendment has also been added in relation to the period and mode of payment of the \$25,000,000, which, though not reducing the total amount, has a very considerable importance in view of the future and in giving us a certain control over the money to be paid.

"When Senator Stone brought the treaty in with a favorable report in 1917 he announced that he proposed to have a vote on it, whether the treaty was accepted or rejected, but after a short time he changed his mind, and the treaty was not voted on. I was invited soon afterwards to have an interview with Mr. Lansing, and I called upon him and had a long conversation with him. I told him very frankly that the treaty in its present form could not possibly pass, but that I thought with certain amendments, in view of the importance of the interests involved, it might be accepted by the Senate, but the amendments were vital. Article 1 must be stricken from the treaty entirely and other changes must be made. These amendments were suggested by Senator Knox, by Senator Root and by me."

Protecting American Interests.

HARDING ADDRESS COVERS HIS CAMPAIGN PLEDGES

Continued from First Page.

ness which turns to greed, but ever concerned with that productivity at home which is the source of all abiding good fortune. It is agreed that we cannot sell unless we buy, but ability to sell is based on home development and the fostering of home markets. There is little sentiment in the trade of the world. Trade can and ought to be honorable, but it knows no sympathy. While the delegates of the nations at war were debating peace terms at Paris, and while we later debated our part in completing the peace, commercial agents of other nations were opening their lines and establishing their outposts, with a forward look to the morrow's trade.

It was wholly proper, and has been advantageous to them. Tardy as we are, it will be safer to lead our own markets secure and build thereon for our trade with the world.

A very important matter is the establishment of the Government's business on a business basis. There was toleration of the easy going, unsystematic method of handling our fiscal affairs when indirect taxation held the public unmindful of the Federal burden. But there is knowledge of the high cost of living is inseparably linked with high cost of government. There can be no complete correction of the high living cost unless the Government's cost is notably reduced.

Let me most heartily commend the enactment of legislation providing for the national budget system. Congress has already recorded its belief in the budget. It will be a very great satisfaction to know of its early enactment, that the Government will establish the economies and business methods so essential to the minimum of expenditure.

I have said to the people we meant to have less of government in business as well as more business in government. It is well to have it understood that business has a right to pursue its normal, legitimate and righteous way unimpeded, and it ought have no call to meet Government competition where all risk is borne by the public. There is no challenge to honest and lawful business success. But Government approval of fortunate, unhampered business does not mean toleration of restraint of trade or of maintained prices by unnatural methods. It is well to have legitimate business understand that a just price is the right of the people. The interests of all the people has a right to expect the cooperation of that legitimate business in stamping out the practices which add to unrest and inspire restrictive legislation. Anxious as we are to restore the outward flow of business, it is fair to combine assurance and warning in one utterance.

Deflation Falls to Hit Mark.

"One condition in the business world may well receive your inquiry. Deflation has been in progress but has failed to reach the mark where it can be proclaimed to the great mass of consumers. Reduced cost of basic production has been recorded, but high cost of living has not yielded in proportion. For example, the price of grain and livestock have been deflated, but the cost of bread and meats is not adequately reflected therein. It is to be expected that the price of staples will be slow in yielding to lowered prices, but the maintained retail costs in perishable foods cannot be justified."

I have asked the Federal Trade Commission for a report of its observations, and it attributes, in the main, the failure to adjust consumers' prices to basic production costs to the exchange of information by "open price associations," which operate, evidently, within the law, to the disadvantage of the consumer and members and equal disadvantage to the consuming public. Without the spirit of hostility or haste in accusation, but with the aid of a suitable inquiry by Congress might speed the price readjustment to normal relationship, with helpfulness of both producer and consumer. A measure of fair prices will satisfy the country and give us a business revival to end all depression and unemployment.

The great interest of both the producer and consumer—indeed, all our industrial and commercial life, from agriculture to finance—depends on the free movement of goods and services. Between the United States and its possessions there should be ample communication facilities, providing direct service at reasonable rates. Between the United States and other countries, not only should there be adequate facilities, but those should be so arranged that they are free from foreign intermediation.

Friendly cooperation should be extended to international efforts aimed at encouraging improvement of international communication facilities and designed to further the exchange of messages.

Private monopolies tending to prevent the development of needed facilities should be prohibited. Government owned facilities, wherever possible without unduly interfering with private enterprise or Government needs, should be made available for general use.

Cable and Radio Services.

Particularly desirable is the provision of ample cable and radio service at reasonable rates for the transmission of press matter, so that the American reader may receive a wide range of news, and the foreign reader receive full accounts of American activities. The daily press of all countries may well be put in position to contribute to international understanding by the publication of interesting foreign news.

Practical experience demonstrates the need for effective regulation of both domestic and international radio communication. It is to be fully utilized. Especially needful is the provision of ample radio facilities for these services, where radio only can be used, such as communication with ships at sea with aircraft, and out-of-the-way places.

International communication by cable and radio requires cooperation between the powers concerned. Whatever the degree of control deemed advisable within the United States, Government licensing of cable and radio stations for transmitting and receiving international traffic seems necessary for the protection of American interests.

ests and for the securing of satisfactory reciprocal privileges.

Aviation is inseparable from either the army or the navy, and the Government must, in the interests of national defense, encourage its development for military and civil purposes.

The encouragement of the civil development of aeronautics is especially desirable in relieving the Government largely of the expense of development, and of maintenance of an industry, now almost entirely in the hands of private enterprise, which is an important factor in the direction of commercial aviation.

It has become a pressing duty of the Federal Government to provide for the regulation of air navigation; otherwise independent and conflicting legislation will be enacted by the various States which will hamper the development of aviation.

The Federal Government has a special report on this subject has recommended the establishment of a bureau of aeronautics in the Department of Commerce for the Federal regulation of air navigation, which recommendation ought to have legislative approval.

Navy Air Bureau Urged.

I recommend the enactment of legislation establishing a bureau of aeronautics in the Navy Department, to centralize the naval activities in aeronautics, and removing the restrictions on the personnel detailed to aviation in the navy.

The army air service should be continued as a coordinate combatant branch of the army, and its existing organization and personnel should be maintained with other agencies of the Government in the establishment of national transcontinental airways and in cooperation with the States in the establishment of local airbases and landing fields.

The American people expect Congress unfailingly to vote the gratitude of the Republic to a generous and practical way to its defenders in the world war, who need the supporting arm of the Government. Our very immediate concern is for the crippled soldiers and those deeply needing the helping hand of government. Conscious of the generous intent of Congress and the public concern for the crippled and dependent, I invited the services of a volunteer committee to inquire into the administration of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the Federal Board of Vocational Training and other agencies of government in caring for the ex-servicemen, sailors and marines of the world war.

This committee promptly reported the chief difficulty to be the imperfect organization of governmental effort. The lack of coordination which renders Government efficiency in many undertakings, less noticed because the need for prompt service is less appealing.

This committee has recommended, and I convey the recommendations to you with cordial approval, that all Government agencies looking to the welfare of the ex-servicemen should be placed under one directing head, so that the welfare of these disabled saviors of our civilization and from may have the most efficient direction. It may be well to make such an official the Director General of Service to War Veterans and place under his direction all hospitalization, vocational training, war insurance, rehabilitation and all pensions.

The immediate extension and utilization of the Government's hospital facilities in the army and navy will bring relief to the acute conditions most complained of, and the hospital service may be worked out to meet the needs likely to be urgent at the time of possible conflict.

The careful and thoughtful attention of Congress, for we are embarking on the performance of a sacred obligation, may play an important role of billions in the half century before us. Congress must perfect the policy of generous gratitude and consolation to the disabled saviors of our country, and the rehabilitation shall be extended by respiration.

Welfare Department Favored.

During the recent political canvass the proposal was made that a department of public welfare should be created. It was endorsed and commended so strongly that I venture to call your attention to it and to suggest favorable legislative consideration.

The Government's obligation to the disabled saviors of our country is of the highest and most delicate type of citizenship is modernly accepted almost universally. Government rests upon the body of citizenship. It cannot maintain itself on a level that keeps it out of touch and understanding with the community it serves.

Enlightened Governments everywhere recognize this and are giving their recognition effect in policies and programs. Certainly no Government can afford to neglect the needs of its own people. It is our duty to reflect the human attitude, the purpose of making better citizens—physically, intellectually, spiritually. To this end we are convinced that such a department of the Government would be of real value. It could be made to crystallize much of the social justice into solid accomplishment. Events of recent years have profoundly impressed thinking people with the need to recognize new social forces and evolution and to equip our citizens for dealing rightly with problems of life and social order.

In the realms of education, public health, sanitation, conditions of workers in industry, child welfare, proper amusement and recreation, the American people have many other subjects, the Government has already undertaken a considerable range of activities. I assume the maternity bill, already approved, will be enacted promptly, thus adding to our manifestation of human interest. But these understandings have been scattered throughout the Government and with much overlapping of functions which fritter energies and make it difficult to coordinate the efforts of the greatest importance are handled by bureaus within Government departments which logically have no apparent relation to them.

Other subjects which might well have the earnest consideration of Federal authority have been neglected or inadequately provided for. To bring these various activities together in a single department where the whole field could be surveyed and where their interrelationships could be properly appreciated would make for increased effectiveness, economy and intelligence of direction.

To Respect State Rights.

In creating such a department it should be made plain that there is no purpose to invade fields which the States have occupied. In respect of education, for example, the Federal administration has entered with the States, yet the Federal Government has no right to interfere with the State's right to control its own schools.

has always aided them. National appropriations in aid of educational purposes the last fiscal year were no less than \$55,000,000. There need be no fear of undue centralization of a Federal bureaucracy to dominate affairs better to be left in State control. We must, of course, avoid overlapping the activities of the several States and we must ever resist the growing demand on the Federal treasury for the performance of service for which the States are obligated to their citizens.

Somewhat related to the foregoing human problems is the race question. Congress ought to wipe the slate clean of race prejudice, and the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy. We face the fact that many millions of people of African descent are numbered among our population and that in a number of States they constitute a very large proportion of the total population.

It is necessary to recount the difficulties incident to the condition, nor to emphasize the fact that it is a condition which cannot be removed. There are some of its difficulties might be ameliorated by a humane and enlightened consideration of it. A study of its many aspects and an effort to formulate a policy, at least a national attitude of mind calculated to bring about the most satisfactory possible adjustment of relations between the races, and each race to the national life. One proposal is the creation of a commission, embracing representatives of both races, to study the subject of race relations. I am convinced that in mutual tolerance, understanding, charity, recognition of the interdependence of the races, and the maintenance of the rights of citizenship lies the road to right conclusion.

It is needless to call your attention to the unfinished business inherited from the preceding Congress. The appropriation bills for army and navy will have your early consideration.

Neither branch of the Government can be unmindful of the call for reduced expenditure for these departments of our national defense. Our Government is in accord with the wish to eliminate the burdens of heavy armaments. The United States ever will be in harmony with a movement toward the higher attainments of peace. But we shall not entirely discard our agencies for defense until there is removed the need to defend. We are ready to cooperate with other nations to approximate disarmament, but merest prudence forbids that we disarm alone.

No Threat in Navy Plans.

The naval programme, which had its beginning in what seemed the highest assurances of peace, can carry no threat after the latest proof of our national unselfishness. The reasonable limitation of personnel may be combined with economies of administration to lift the burdens of excessive cost.

The War Department is reducing the personnel of the army from the maximum provided by law in June, 1920, to the minimum authorized by Congress in a subsequent enactment. When further reduction is compatible with national security it may well have the sanction of Congress, so that a system of voluntary military training may offer to our young manhood the advantages of physical development, discipline and commitment to service, and at the same time the army reserve in return for the training.

Nearly two and a half years ago the world war came to an end and yet we find ourselves today in the technical state of war, though actually at peace, while Europe is at technical peace, far from tranquility, and little progress toward the hoped for restoration.

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League and the Treaty.

Manifestly the highest purpose of the League of Nations was defeated in linking it with the treaty of peace and making it the enforcing agency of the victors. The League of Nations, world-governing with its super-powers, this republic will have no part. There can be no misinterpretation of this. It will be no betrayal of the deliberate expression of the American people in the recent election, and settled in our decision; and we find ourselves today in the technical state of war, though actually at peace, while Europe is at technical peace, far from tranquility, and little progress toward the hoped for restoration.

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technical peace without further delay I should approve a declaratory resolution by Congress to that effect, with the qualifications essential to protect all our rights. Such action would be the simplest keeping of faith with ourselves, and could in no sense be construed as a desertion of those with whom we shared our offices in the past, for these Powers are already at peace.

Merely to Declare Peace.

Such a resolution should undertake to do no more than thus to declare the state of peace, which all America craves. It must add no difficulty in effecting such just reparations. The restoration for which all Europe yearns and upon which the world's recovery must be founded. Neither former enemy nor ally is America's position, because our attitude as to responsibility for the war and the necessity for just reparations is already an established fact and very earnest expression.

It would be unwise to undertake to make a statement of future policy with respect to European affairs in such a declaration of a state of peace. In correcting the failure of the executive in negotiating the most important treaty in the history of the nation to recognize the constitutional powers of the Senate we would go to the other extreme, equally objectionable, if Congress or the Senate should assume the function of the executive. Our highest duty is the preservation of the constituted powers of each and the promotion of the spirit of cooperation in our common welfare.

It would be idle to declare separate treaties of peace with the Central Powers on the assumption that such alone would be adequate, because the situation is so involved that our peace engagements cannot ignore the Old World already effected, nor is it desirable to do so in preserving our own rights and contracting our future relationships.

The wisest course would seem to be the adoption of the confirmation of our rights and interests as already provided and to engage under the existing treaty, assuming of course that this can be satisfactorily accomplished by such explicit reservations and modifications as will secure our absolute freedom from inadvisable commitments and safeguard our essential interests. Neither Congress nor the people needs any assurance that a request to negotiate needed treaties of peace would be as superfluous as necessary. It is technically ineffective, and I know in my own heart there is none who would wish to embarrass the Executive in the performance of his duty when we are all so eager to turn disappointment and delay into gratifying accomplishment.

Life of Nations Involved.

Problems relating to our foreign relations have upon the present and the future, and are of such a nature that the all important future must be deliberately considered, with greater concern than in the past. We have witnessed, yea, we have participated in the supremely tragic episode of war, but our deeper concern is the continuing life of nations and the development of civilization.

We must not allow our vision to be impaired by the conflict among ourselves. The weariness of the war and the disappointment to the world have been compensated in the proof that this republic will surrender none of the heritage of nationality, but yet we find ourselves today in the technical state of war, though actually at peace, while Europe is at technical peace, far from tranquility, and little progress toward the hoped for restoration.

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To Seek Senate's Advice.

In an all compelling wish to do the most and best for our own republic and to maintain its high place among nations and at the same time make the fullest offering to the jointing of the peoples of the world in the pursuit of peace once more.

Our obligations in effecting European tranquility, based on the obligations, are not less compelling than our part in the war itself. This restoration must be wrought before the human procession can go onward again. We can be helpful because we are moved by no hatreds and harbor no fears. Helpfulness does not mean entanglement, and participation in economic adjustment does not mean sponsorship for treaty commitments which do not concern us, and in which we will have no part.

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powers contemplated in the Constitution, and no covenants which ignore our associations in the war can be made for the future.

More, no helpful society of nations can be founded on justice and committed to peace until the covenants reestablishing peace are sealed by the nations which were at war. To such an accomplishment—to the complete reestablishment of peace and its contracted relationships—to the realization of our aspirations for nations associated for world helpfulness without world government, for world stability on which humanity's hopes are founded, we shall address ourselves, fully mindful of the high privilege and the paramount duty of the United States in this critical period of the world.

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Wall Street, however, is still disposed to look for deeds rather than words, and financiers were loath to discuss any feature of the address. It was recognized that the Harding Administration is confronted with complex problems which will require time before constructive



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